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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/630,697	07/31/2003	Rosaldo Picozzi	108910-00111	1621

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EXAMINER

KEYS, ROSALYND ANN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1621

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/630,697

Applicant(s)

PICOZZI ET AL.

Examiner

Rosalynd Keys

Art Unit

1621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/16/03 & 3/11/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

1. Claims 1-7 are pending.
Claims 3-7 are rejected.
Claims 1 and 2 are withdrawn from consideration.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election with traverse of Group II, claims 3-7 in the reply filed on March 14, 2006 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that hydrofluoroethers having at least one OCFXCH₃ end group are only known by the Applicants to be obtainable using the present process. This is not found persuasive because Yuminov, V. S., [Russian Journal of Organic Chemistry (Translation of Zhurnal Organicheskoi Khimii), December 1998, 34(12), pp. 1715-1720] teaches that the compound CF₃(CF₂)₂OCF(CH₃)CF₃, which is a compound having at least one OCFXCH₃ end group is formed in the reaction of the dimer or trimer with sodium carbonate in aprotic solvent (see the paragraph bridging pages 1715 and 1716, scheme 1 on page 1715 and Table 1 on page 1716). Thus, the compound of Group I is obtainable by another and materially different process than the process of Group II.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Priority

3. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statements (IDSs) submitted on September 16, 2003 and March 11, 2004 were considered by the examiner.

Specification

5. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: The specification does not provide support for the T''' in formula III, as disclosed in claim 3.

Claim Objections

6. Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities: the word between is misspelled in line 2. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

9. A broad range or limitation together with a narrow range or limitation that falls within the broad range or limitation (in the same claim) is considered indefinite, since the resulting claim does not clearly set forth the metes and bounds of the patent protection desired. See MPEP § 2173.05(c). Note the explanation given by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in *Ex*

Art Unit: 1621

parte Wu, 10 USPQ2d 2031, 2033 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1989), as to where broad language is followed by "such as" and then narrow language. The Board stated that this can render a claim indefinite by raising a question or doubt as to whether the feature introduced by such language is (a) merely exemplary of the remainder of the claim, and therefore not required, or (b) a required feature of the claims. Note also, for example, the decisions of *Ex parte Steigewald*, 131 USPQ 74 (Bd. App. 1961); *Ex parte Hall*, 83 USPQ 38 (Bd. App. 1948); and *Ex parte Hasche*, 86 USPQ 481 (Bd. App. 1949).

10. In the present instance, claim 3 recites the broad recitation supported platinum, and the claim also recites preferably on metal fluorides, which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation. Also, claim 3 recites the broad recitation in the presence of a catalyst formed by supported platinum, and the claim also recites preferably in the presence of inert solvents, which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation. Also, claim 3 recites the broad recitation a temperature in the range 20°C-150°C, and the claim also recites preferably 80°C-120°C, which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation. Also, claim 3 recites the broad recitation a pressure between 1 and 50 atm, and the claim also recites preferably between 1 and 10 atm, which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation.

11. In the present instance, claim 4 recites the broad recitation wherein the metal fluorides are selected from the group formed by CaF_2 , BaF_2 , MgF_2 , AlF_3 , and the claim also recites more preferably CaF_2 , which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation.

12. In the present instance, claim 5 recites the broad recitation between 0.1% and 10%, and the claim also recites preferably between 1% and 2% by weight, which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation.

Art Unit: 1621

13. In the present instance, claim 6 recites the broad recitation in the range 1%-100%, and the claim also recites preferably 10%-100%, which is the narrower statement of the range/limitation.

14. Claim 7 is indefinite indefinite because it depends from an indefinite claim. Ex parte Cordova, 10 U.S.P.Q.2d 1949, 1952 (P.T.O. Bd. App. 1989).

Conclusion

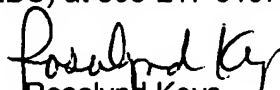
15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yuminov [Russian Journal of Organic Chemistry (Translation of Zhurnal Organicheskoi Khimii), December 1998, 34(12), pp. 1715-1720] teaches that the compound $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_2\text{OCF}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CF}_3$, which is a compound having at least one OCFXCH_3 end group is formed in the reaction of the dimer or trimer with sodium carbonate in aprotic solvent (see the paragraph bridging pages 1715 and 1716, scheme 1 on page 1715 and Table 1 on page 1716).

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rosalynd Keys whose telephone number is 571-272-0639. The examiner can normally be reached on M-W & F 4-10pm; H 5:30am-5pm; Sat 8am-1pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Johann Richter can be reached on 571-272-0646. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Rosalyn Keys
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1621

April 1, 2006